

A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR  
IMPROVING THROUGHPUT OVER  
WIRELESS LOCAL AREA NETWORKS  
WITH MODE SWITCHING

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ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A method and system for increasing the overall network throughput over a wireless local area network (WLAN).

10 Specifically, in one embodiment of the present invention, the dynamic switching between the Distributed Coordination Function (DCF) and Point Coordination Function IEEE 802.11 access modes is determined according to the load conditions over the WLAN in a method and system. Stations and access  
15 points within a WLAN monitor conditions within the network to determine which access mechanism is most optimum for the current load conditions. Some factors to consider in determining the load conditions include but are not limited to the number of transmissions, number of receptions, and  
20 number of collisions.